UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/563,093	12/30/2005	Toshiyuki Noguchi	00862.103702.	8149

5514 7590 07/23/2009

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER	
TOWFIGHI, AFSHAWN M	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2458	
MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/23/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/563,093	NOGUCHI, TOSHIYUKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	AFSHAWN TOWFIGHI	2458	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,5-9,17 and 21-36* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,5-9,17 and 21-36* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 December 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/23/2009*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 17, 21-36 are pending.

2. Claims 4, 10-16, 18-20 are cancelled.

3. Claims 25-36 are new.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 4/23/2009 is being considered by the examiner.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the title have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the title has been withdrawn.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the 101 rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 have been withdrawn.

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 17, 21-24, 27-28, 30-31, 33-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernklau-Halvor (Patent No: 6,782,495), herein after Bernklau and further in view of Ikudome (Patent No: 6,779,118).

As to claim 1, Bernklau teaches a control method of controlling a service request apparatus connected with a device *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network),* comprising: acquiring device information associated with the device *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered);* transmitting the device information to an agent apparatus, wherein the device information is added to a first address for accessing the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server);* receiving a second address for accessing a service providing apparatus, which is designated by the agent apparatus based on first information of the device information wherein the device information is also added to the second address *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 62-25, support links are selected by the printer user which adds a URL argument to request a webpage);* sending the device information added to the second address to the service providing

apparatus by accessing the received second address *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 62-25, support links are selected by the printer user which adds a URL argument to request a webpage)*; receiving page information from the service providing apparatus; and displaying the received page information on a display, wherein the service providing apparatus generates the page information according to second information of the device information and transmits the generated page information to the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser).* Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 2, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome and the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining

amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 3, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that displays icons corresponding to the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information).*

As to claim 5, Bernklau teaches a control method of a service providing apparatus for providing a service associated with a device connected to a service request apparatus for the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network)*, comprising: receiving device information associated with the device from the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is added to a second address for accessing the service providing apparatus, which is designated by an agent apparatus based on first information of the device information added to a first address used by the service request apparatus to access

the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 62-25, support links are selected by the printer user which adds a URL argument to request a webpage)*; generating page information according to second information of the device information; and transmitting the generated page information to the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser).* Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address for accessing the service providing apparatus. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address for accessing the service providing apparatus *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 6, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining

amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 7, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that displays icons corresponding to the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information).*

As to claim 8, Bernklau teaches a control method of controlling an agent apparatus, which mediates between a service request apparatus and a service providing apparatus that provides a service associated with a device connected to the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network)*, comprising: receiving device information associated with the device from the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is acquired by the service request apparatus and is added to a first address, which is used by the service request apparatus to access the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29*

and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server); designating the service providing apparatus to be accessed by the service request apparatus based on first information of the device information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*; and transmitting a second address for accessing the designated service providing apparatus to the service request apparatus, wherein the device information is also added to the second address, the service request apparatus accesses the service providing apparatus according to the second address, and the service providing apparatus generates page information based on second information of the device information added to the second address *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser)*. Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 9, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 17, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the first and second addresses are a Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and the device information is added as an argument of the URL *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server);*

As to claim 21, Bernklau teaches a service request apparatus connected with a device *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network)*, comprising: an acquisition unit adapted to acquire device information associated with the device *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*; a transmission unit adapted to transmit the device information to an agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is added to a first address for accessing the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*; a reception unit

adapted to receive a second address for accessing a service providing apparatus, which is designated by the agent apparatus based on first information of the device information, wherein the device information is also added to the second address; a sending unit adapted to send the device information added to the second address to the service providing apparatus by accessing the received second address; a receiving unit adapted to receive page information from the service providing apparatus; and a display unit adapted to display the received page information wherein the service providing apparatus generates page information according to second information of the device information and transmits the page information to the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser)*. Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 22, Bernklau teaches a service providing apparatus for providing a service associated with a device connected to a service request apparatus for the service

request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network)*, comprising: a reception unit adapted to receive device information associated with the device from the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is added to a second address for accessing the service providing apparatus, which is designated by an agent apparatus based on first information of the device information added to a first address used by the service request apparatus to access the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*, a generation unit adapted to generate page information according to second information of the device information; and a transmission unit adapted to transmit the generated page information to the service request apparatus (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser)*. Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 23, Bernklau teaches an agent apparatus which mediates between a service request apparatus and a service providing apparatus that provides a service associated with a device connected to the service request apparatus via a network *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network)* comprising: a reception unit adapted to receive device information associated with the device from the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is acquired by the service request apparatus and is added to a first address, which is used by the service request apparatus access the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*; a designation unit adapted to designate the service providing apparatus to be accessed by the service request apparatus based on first information of the device information; and a transmission unit adapted to transmit a second address for accessing the designated service providing apparatus to the service request apparatus, wherein the device information is also added to the second address, the service request apparatus accesses the service providing apparatus according to the second address, and the service providing apparatus generates page information based on second information of the device information added to the second address (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user*

through a page displayed in a browser). Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 24, Bernklau teaches a system for providing a service via a network, comprising a service request apparatus, a service providing apparatus, and an agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14-20, requesting device support solutions for a printer on a network through a solutions server)*, the service request apparatus comprising: an acquisition unit adapted to acquire device information associated with the device *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*; a transmission unit adapted to transmit the device information to the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*, wherein the device information is added to a first address for accessing the agent apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*; a reception unit adapted to receive a second address for accessing a service providing apparatus, which is designated by the agent apparatus based on first information of the device

information, wherein the device information is also added to the second address; a sending unit adapted to send the device information added to the second address to the service providing apparatus by accessing the received second address; a receiving unit adapted to receive page information from the service providing apparatus; and a display unit adapted to display the received page information (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser)*, the agent apparatus comprising: a reception unit adapted to receive the device information associated with the device from the service request apparatus *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 24-27, information associated with the printer is gathered)*; a designation unit adapted to designate the service providing apparatus to be accessed by the service request apparatus based on the first information of the device information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 26-29 and 53-55, a URL argument added where the printer sends the acquired information to the support server)*; and a transmission unit adapted to transmit the second address for accessing the designated service providing apparatus to the service request apparatus, wherein the device information is also added to the second address, and the service providing apparatus comprising: a reception unit adapted to receive the device information according to the second information of the device information; and a transmission unit adapted to transmit the generated page information to the service request apparatus (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in*

a browser). Bernklau does not teach wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address. Ikudome teaches wherein an address in a web browser of the service request apparatus is automatically changed to the second address *(Ikudome, Abstract, redirecting a user to a URL based on a predefined event, in this case selection of the link associated with the solution).* It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Ikudome with Bernklau to add automatic address redirection, because it would save the user time.

As to claim 27, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 28, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that displays icons corresponding to the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau,*

Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information).

As to claim 30, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 31, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that displays icons corresponding to the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information).*

As to claim 33, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches the device is a printer *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer),* the first information includes at least one of printer retailer information and language information of a printer driver *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 5, Printer type),* and the second information includes at least one of ink remaining amount information and printer model information *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*

As to claim 34, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches a computer readable recording medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute the control method according to claim 1 *(See citations for claim1).*

As to claim 35, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches a computer readable recording medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute the control method according to claim 5 *(See citations for claim 5).*

As to claim 36, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches a computer readable recording medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute the control method according to claim 8 *(See citations for claim 8).*

10. Claims 25-26, 29, 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome as applied to claims 1, 5, 21, 32 above, and further in view of Hanai et al (Pub No: 2001/0051893), herein Hanai et al.

As to claim 25, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information of the printer *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels).*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information)* . Bernklau and Ikudome do not teach the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance. Hanai teaches the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance *(Hanai, [0014], offering the client a set value of ink)*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bernklau and Ikudome with Hanai to have a set value of ink in order to provide the client with an efficient shopping system at a discounted price.

As to claim 26, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information of the printer *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines*

48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information) . Bernklau and Ikudome do not teach the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance. Hanai teaches the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance *(Hanai, [0014], offering the client a set value of ink)*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bernklau and Ikudome with Hanai to have a set value of ink in order to provide the client with an efficient shopping system at a discounted price.

As to claim 29, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information of the printer *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information)* . Bernklau and Ikudome do not teach the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance. Hanai teaches the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance *(Hanai, [0014], offering the client a set value of ink)*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention

to combine the teachings of Bernklau and Ikudome with Hanai to have a set value of ink in order to provide the client with an efficient shopping system at a discounted price.

As to claim 32, the combination of Bernklau and Ikudome teaches wherein the device is a printer (*Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 14, a printer)*, the second information includes ink remaining amount information of the printer *(Bernklau, Table 1 Line 20, acquired information includes ink and ink levels)*, and the service providing apparatus generates the page information that the ink remaining amount information *(Bernklau, Col 2 Lines 48-65, pages are sent between the support server and the user. The support server constructs and sends access information (links) to the solution service to the user through a page displayed in a browser. The displayed information is a visual representation of the information)* . Bernklau and Ikudome do not teach the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance. Hanai teaches the purchase number of corresponding inks are set in advance *(Hanai, [0014], offering the client a set value of ink)*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bernklau and Ikudome with Hanai to have a set value of ink in order to provide the client with an efficient shopping system at a discounted price.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AFSHAWN TOWFIGHI whose telephone number is (571)270-7296. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph E. Avellino can be reached on (571)272-3905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/AT/ 7/20/2009

/Joseph E. Avellino/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2458